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The Patent Office
Concept House
Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales
NP10 8QQ

CERTIFIED COPY OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

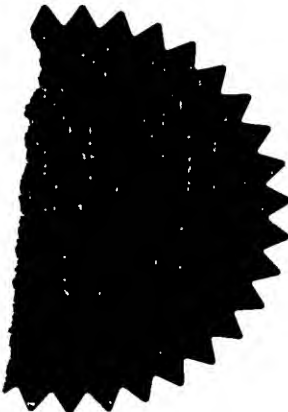
I, the undersigned, being an officer duly authorised in accordance with Section 74(1) and (4) of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994, to sign and issue certificates on behalf of the Comptroller-General, hereby certify that annexed hereto is a true copy of the documents as originally filed in connection with the patent application identified therein together with the Statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a Patent (Form 7/77), which was subsequently filed.

I also certify that the application is now proceeding in the name as identified herein.

In accordance with the Patents (Companies Re-registration) Rules 1982, if a company named in this certificate and any accompanying documents has re-registered under the Companies Act 1980 with the same name as that with which it was registered immediately before re-registration save for the substitution as, or inclusion as, the last part of the name of the words "public limited company" or their equivalents in Welsh, references to the name of the company in this certificate and any accompanying documents shall be treated as references to the name with which it is so re-registered.

In accordance with the rules, the words "public limited company" may be replaced by p.l.c., plc, P.L.C. or PLC.

Re-registration under the Companies Act does not constitute a new legal entity but merely subjects the company to certain additional company law rules.



Signed

P. Mahoney

Dated 1 April 2004

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GB0124007.6

By virtue of a direction given under Section 30 of the Patents Act 1977, the application is proceeding in the name of:-

GENTECH INVESTMENT GROUP AG
Incorporated in Switzerland
Baarerstrasse 112, Treuhand-und Revisiongesellschaft Zug
6302 Zug
Switzerland

ADP No. 08361271001

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Patents Form 1/77
Patents Act 1977
(Rule 16)

**The
Patent
Office**

080CT01 E665315-15 002917
LP01/7700 0.00-0124007.6

Request for grant of a patent

The Patent Office
Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales NP10 8QQ

1.	Your reference	
	1862501/AM	
2.	Patent Application Number	
	0124007.6	
3.	Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (<i>underline all surnames</i>)	
	Sensopad Technologies Limited Harston Mill Harston Cambridgeshire CB2 5GG	
	Patents ADP number (<i>if known</i>) 8157471001	
	If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation	Country: ENGLAND State:
4.	Title of the invention	
	ALTERNATIVE CONTROLS FOR WASHING MACHINES & DRYERS	
5.	Name of agent	Beresford & Co
	"Address for Service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent	2/5 Warwick Court High Holborn London WC1R 5DH
	Patents ADP number 1826002	16 High Holborn London WC1V 6EX
6.	Priority details	
	Country	Priority application number
		Date of filing

Patents Form 1/77

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application give details

Number of earlier application

Date of filing

8. Is a statement of inventorship and or right to grant of a patent required in support of this request?

YES

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form.

Continuation sheets of this form

Description

2

Claim(s)

Abstract

Drawing(s)

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and
right to grant of a patent (*Patents form 7/77*)

1 + 2 COPIES

Request for preliminary examination
and search (*Patents Form 9/77*)

Request for Substantive Examination
(*Patents Form 10/77*)

Any other documents
(*please specify*)

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application

Signature


BERESFORD & Co

Date 5 October 2001

12. Name and daytime telephone number of
person to contact in the United Kingdom

ALAN JOHN SHAW MACDOUGALL

Tel: 020 7831 2290

**The
Patent
Office**

**Statement of inventorship and of
right to grant of a patent**

The Patent Office
Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales NP10 8QQ

1. Your reference
1862501/AM

2. Patent Application Number
accompanying application reference 1862501

0124007.6

3. Full name of the or each applicant
Sensopad Technologies Limited

4. Title of the invention
ALTERNATIVE CONTROLS FOR WASHING MACHINES & DRYERS

5. State how the applicant(s) derived the right from the inventor(s) to be granted a patent
BY VIRTUE OF EMPLOYMENT.

6. How many, if any additional Patents Forms
7/77 are attached to this form?
NONE

7. I/We believe that the person(s) named over the page (and on any extra copies of this form) is/are the
inventor(s) of the invention which the above patent application relates to.

Signature

Beresford & Co
BERESFORD & Co

Date 5 October 2001

8. Name and daytime telephone number of
person to contact in the United Kingdom

ALAN JOHN SHAW MACDOUGALL
Tel: 020 7831 2290

Patents Form 7/77

HOWARD, Mark Anthony
c/o Sensopad Technologies Limited
Harston Mill
Harston
Cambridgeshire CB2 5GG

SILLS, Colin
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Cambridgeshire CB2 5GG

Alternative Controls for Washing Machines & Dryers

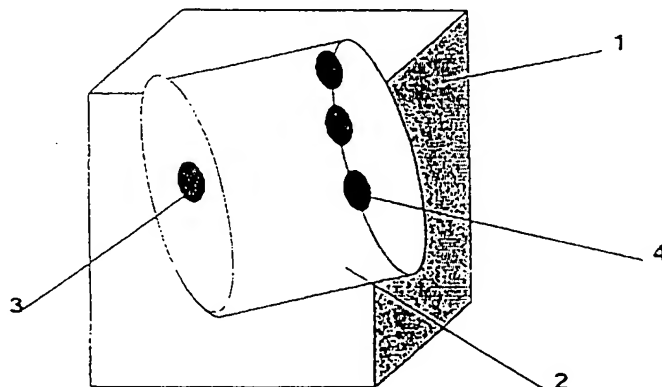
Recent washing machine and dryer innovations involve the use of removable drums for the benefit and convenience of users. With such systems the user may load clothes in to the drum while it is remote from the washing machine or dryer. Essentially, the drum can be used as both laundry basket and washing machine drum. Users enjoy improved convenience and ergonomics.

However, ergonomic and other problems remain with the control panel. Not only are traditional control panels difficult and expensive to engineer (e.g. for ease of use and waterproofing for reasons of electrical safety) but they are not ergonomically efficient.

This invention provides ergonomically efficient and easy to use controls for washing machines and dryers with removable drums or drums with wider access than the traditional swinging front door.

This invention partly or fully replaces traditional control panels by placing the controls on the drum itself. User access and ease of use is improved. Additionally, the possibility that the users wrongly selects the wash cycle is reduced.

The invention uses one or more passive electronic circuits or 'pucks' [3 & 4] attached to or embedded in the washing machine [1] drum [2].



The pucks may be used to identify the drum type. Identification is made according to the pucks resonant frequency. A specific frequency may be attributed to a specific drum, e.g. 'whites' or 'mixed' or 'coloured' or 'woollen'. The washing machines control system is configured so as to interrogate the puck or pucks by means of an inductive electro-magnetic aerial attached to the washing machine but positioned locally to the puck positions. Once identified an appropriate wash cycle according to the drum identity may be triggered.

An added benefit of identifying a drum is to avoid one unauthorised manufacturer's drum type being used on another manufacturer's machine.

Users of a drum and hence wash cycles may also be identified so as to provide means of billing users according to their usage (e.g. in a commercial environment where laundry facilities are shared, e.g. sailor's mess).

The user may also utilise the pucks to program the machine. For example moving the pucks on the drum to pre-assigned positions may set the start and stop time or the load quantity. The position, relative position and frequency of the pucks determine the program inputs.

The same principle of operation applies whether multiple or single pucks are employed; a local antennae decodes the information and passes it to the host machine's processor in order that the appropriate programme may be activated.

Since the passive electronic pucks are readily sealed the problems of water ingress interfering with the operation is greatly diminished.

As the drum rotates a signal will be received by the local antennae and can be used to provide rotational speed data to the host processor.

Good ergonomics may also be achieved by attaching the programming pucks to the door. Traditional controls would require electrical cables to be connected. By using passive electronics pucks the usual problems associated with routing cables to a moving part may be avoided. Such an approach also has the added benefit of acting as a door open or closed sensor.

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